

REMARKS

Applicant expresses appreciation to the Examiner for the interview conducted with applicant's attorneys. The claims have been amended as discussed at the interview. Thus, by this paper claims 3 – 8, 13 – 15, 27 – 30 and 37 – 63 are presented for reconsideration. Of those claims, claims 37 and 44 are independent claims directed to methods of the invention, and independent claims 50 and 58 are corresponding computer program product claims. All other claims depend from one of those independent claims. Accordingly, claims 37, 44, 50 and 58 are the independent claims at issue that are presented for reconsideration, together with their depending claims.

As presented for reconsideration, applicants claimed method and corresponding computer program product (see, e.g., claims 37 and 58) define a method for enabling a server to control the recording of one or more selected television programs of an interactive television system that is connectable by a computing system to the server. The method includes receiving at the server a request from a computing system of an interactive television system for a programming schedule that identifies one or more television programs, which is provided by the server in response to the request. Next, one or more television programs to be recorded are selected at the computing system of the interactive television system from the programming schedule provided from the server. Then an identification is provided from the computing system of the interactive television system of the selected television programs to be recorded, and that is sent to the server. In response to the programs identified for recording, the server automatically and independently of any broadcast signal for audio visual programming content, then downloads recording instructions to the computing system of the interactive television system that causes the selected television programs to be recorded by the recording device of the interactive television system automatically and without user intervention.

Independent claims 44 and 50 are similar, except that the selection of the programs to be recorded, and sending those selections, can be performed from a computing system that is completely separate from the computing system of the interactive television system, such a PDA or cell phone with browser capability.

As discussed at the interview, the claims as presented for reconsideration are not anticipated or made obvious by the prior art of record, either singly or in combination. For example, in the Office Action the claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated

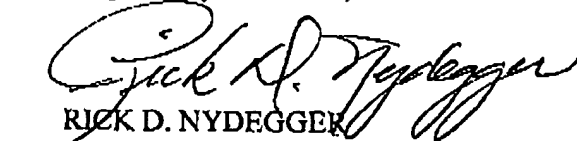
by newly cited U.S. Pat. No. 5,485,219 ("Woo"). However, what Woo discloses is producing "filtered" version of program, meaning that the commercials have been removed by human intervention at the broadcast station, so that home users may, if desired, record those "filtered" versions. However, Woo does not address at all the ability or the desirability of being able to remotely provide commands to a server which will subsequently be downloaded for purposes of automatically programming the home user's recording equipment to record selected programs. Accordingly, as noted in the Interview Summary, the proposed amendment "appears to overcome the applied art of record." Thus, for at least the reasons noted, the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance and favorable reconsideration is requested.

Lastly, the Office Action also required the submission of a new formal drawing for the proposed drawing correction approved by the Examiner. That new formal drawing has been filed by express mail concurrently with the filing of this Amendment.

In the event the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 5th day of May, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



RICK D. NYDEGGER
Registration No. 28,651
JENS C. JENKINS
Registration No. 44,803
Attorneys for Applicant



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